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DATE FILED: 0-19-23

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October 10, 2022

## VIA CM/ECF

Honorable Lewis A. Kaplan United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Re: Cervecería Modelo de México, S. de R.L. de C.V. et al. v. CB Brand Strategies, LLC, et al., Case No. 1:21 Civ. 01317-LAK (S.D.N.Y.)

Dear Judge Kaplan,

We represent Defendants in the above-captioned action. In accordance with Your Honor's Individual Rules of Practice, we write to respectfully request authorization to seal and/or redact certain portions of exhibits to the pretrial order that Defendants believe involve confidential information. The proposed redactions consists of descriptions of documents that were produced in this case by Plaintiffs and Defendants and designated Confidential or Highly Confidential pursuant to the Stipulated Protective Order and Confidentiality Agreement (ECF No. 47) (the "Protective Order"), including documents and communications that extensively discuss forms, approvals, applications, and registrations associated with trademarks, labeling and branding, brewing, and other regulatory issues; production manuals, product ingredients, components, formulas, testing, and methods of manufacture; and business and marketing strategies, including documents concerning current or potential customers, sales strategies, taxes, research and development, branding and labeling, and market performance.

While there is a presumption of public access to judicial documents, courts have "considerable discretion in determining whether good cause exists to overcome the presumption of open access to documents." *Geller v. Branic Int'l Realty Corp.*, 212 F.3d 734, 738 (2d Cir. 2000). In doing so, courts must balance "the competing interests of public access against the privacy interests of the parties," among other factors. *Lugosch v. Pyramid Co. of Onondaga*, 435 F.3d 110, 119 (2d Cir. 2006); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26. Where the presumption of public access is outweighed by such factors, courts routinely grant requests to seal. *Lugosch*, 435 F.3d at 119.

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Defendants believe that the public disclosure of the proposed redactions would cause financial harm that outweighs any presumption of public access. Courts routinely permit the filing of such documents under seal. Kewazinga Corp. v. Microsoft Corp., 2021 WL 1222122, at \*6 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2021) (holding documents may be filed under seal when they include "confidential research and development information, marketing plans, revenue information, pricing information, and the like"); GoSMiLE, Inc. v. Dr. Johnathan Levine, D.M.D. P.C., 769 F. Supp. 2d 630, 649-50 (S.D.N.Y. 2011) (granting motion to seal "highly proprietary material concerning the defendants' marketing strategies, product development, costs and budgeting"); Encyclopedia Brown Prods., Ltd. v. Home Box Office, Inc., 26 F. Supp. 2d 606, 614 (S.D.N.Y. 1998) (finding business information "may provide valuable insights into a company's current business practices" and granting motion to seal).

Pursuant to Section 6.2 of the Protective Order, we will file the exhibits to the pretrial order under seal. Pursuant to Your Honor's Individual Practices, we will enclose full, unredacted versions of those exhibits. We will also file public versions of the exhibits as part of the underseal filing.

We thank the Court for its consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sandra C. Goldstein Sandra C. Goldstein

SO ORDERED

LEWIS A. KAPILAN, USDJ